



The Windchest

Newsletter of the Delaware Chapter,
American Guild of Organists

March 2018

Letter from our Dean

I promised in a recent email that there would be more information about our next event, an anthem reading session on Saturday, March 16. Please see David Schelat's column for details. Thanks to David for organizing this event and to the choir directors who will lead us in this program that I very much hope you will attend. David also provides information about the speaker for our final program of the season.

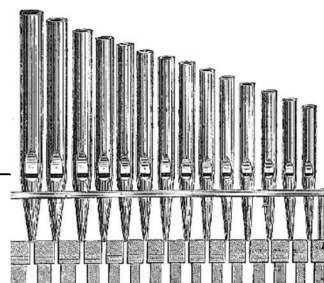
Last fall a number of members gathered for a very pleasant Saturday morning brunch, after which we agreed we should plan another one for the spring. I hope you will join us at 8th and Union Kitchen in Wilmington on Saturday, April 27 at 10:30 a.m. It will be an excellent time to relax with friends after all the Holy Week and Easter services.

There are a number of membership updates to share with you. Chad Fothergill has moved to Birmingham, Alabama, but will return to play an organ recital before the Choral Evensong service at Christ Church Christiana Hundred on Sunday afternoon, April 7. Matt Thomas has moved to the beautiful Berkshires region of Massachusetts to become director of music at St. John's Episcopal Church in Williamstown, Massachusetts. Lee Dettra plans to move to Dallas soon, putting him and Janet closer to two of their children and very close to organist son Scott. Most of all I know they will enjoy all the extra time with their 5-year-old granddaughter, who will, I'm sure, keep them grounded in reality. I speak from experience, for when I admitted to my 6-year-old granddaughter that I like winter, her immediate response was "It's unusual for old people to like winter." With so much talent leaving our chapter, I hope you will be on the lookout for potential new members.

I'm happy that a longtime member who moved last summer agreed to contribute to this issue of the Windchest. Please see Neil Harmon's column, where I think you will be impressed by the information he provides about the organ department he has joined.

If you don't share my enthusiasm for winter, spring will be here soon. Well, maybe.

—Bill Robinson



Delaware AGO Chapter Officers

Bill Robinson, *dean*

David Schelat, *subdean*

Linnea Raffaele, *secretary*

Twyla Evitts, *treasurer/registrar*

Members-at-large

Melissa Heieie

Joanne Hench

Steven Patchel, *newsletter*

Chapter Event Dates Details inside...

September 22, 6:00 pm
Silverside Church

November 10, 10:00 am
First & Central
Presbyterian

January 12, 8:30-3:00
Bryn Mawr Presbyterian

March 16, 10:00 am
First Presbyterian Newark

June 2, 6:00pm
Christ Church Greenville

Letter from our Sub-dean

Finding new choral music that is already saddle-tested can be a challenge for busy church choir directors! New pieces seem like they would be just great – but are they really? Will your singers really enjoy working on them? Are the vocal parts as straight-forward as I think they are? Are the words meaningful and moving, as well as being good poetry? I'm sure you have thought about all of these questions in the past when considering new music, and have chosen music that seemed like it would be perfect – but wasn't! I have been there many times!

Never fear, your Delaware AGO friends have come to the rescue.

On Saturday morning, March 16, from 10-12 in the choir room of First Presbyterian Church in Newark (292 West Main Street), three of our members (Mike Bareham, Joanne Hench, and Steve Patchel) will lead us in a selection of tried, true, and beloved anthems that may be perfect for your choir. Each of these folks has chosen at least one unison or two-part anthem in addition to SATB literature.

Packets of the twelve anthems selected will be available for all to use, and each packet may be purchased for \$20. Extra copies may be taken at the end. Who knows? Perhaps your favorite piece in the packet will have enough copies available at the end of the session for your whole choir! But you must be in attendance to avail yourself of this potential bonus!

We hope to see you on March 16 for this fun time of favorite anthems.

The Organ Historical Society (OHS) has recently relocated to our neck of the woods, and now has its headquarters and library all in one location in Villanova, Pennsylvania. The organization was given a large – well, really quite grand and amazing – home there, called Stoneleigh, and has renovated, restored, and reconfigured it to suit the organization's needs.

But what is OHS? What does it do? Might its activities be interesting to me? May I avail myself of its library (the largest collection of organ-related holdings in the world)?

These questions and many more will be answered at our June 2 banquet at Christ Church, Christiana Hundred by OHS's new CEO, Edward McCall, when he is our guest at this dinner and talk.

Come, enjoy a lovely dinner together (details later), and learn about OHS from Ed. Perhaps this is an organization with which you'd like to be involved.

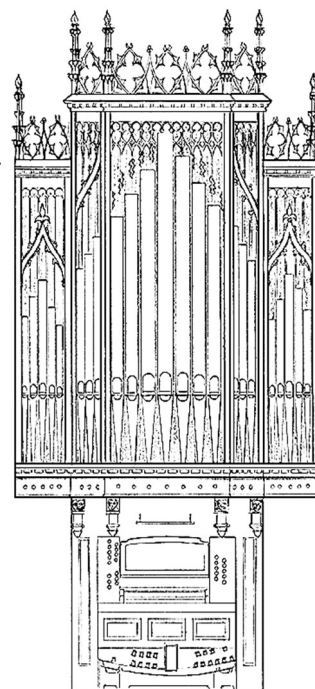
—David Schelat

March 16

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June 2

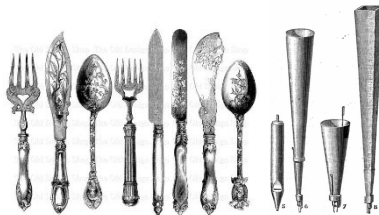
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2018-19 DELAWARE AGO CHAPTER PROGRAMS

Sat. 16 March 10:00 AM
First Pres. Church, Newark
292 W Main Street Newark, DE
Choral Reading Session. Chapter members Mike Bareham, Joanne Hench, and Steven Patchel will introduce new and noteworthy anthems, including some easier works suitable for small choirs.

Sat. 27 April 10:30 AM
8th and Union Kitchen
Spring Brunch. Informal time to share with colleagues and friends. Talk, eat, share stories.



Sun. 2 June 6:00 PM
Christ Church,
Christiana Hundred
Annual banquet with featured speaker Edward McCall, the new CEO of the Organ Historical Society. Preceding the program, Christ Church will hold a 5:00 Choral Evensong service that all are invited to attend.

NOTABLE CONCERTS & EVENTS

MARCH

Saturday 2 March 7:00 PM
VARIANT 6 In Concert
Unaccompanied vocal music of Renaissance, Baroque, and 21st c.
Presbyterian Church of the Covenant
\$15 suggested donation

Sunday 3 March 4:30 PM
Organ Recital by JACK BURNAM
Christ Church Christiana Hundred
Followed by 5:00 Choral Evensong

Thursday 7 March 12:30 PM
CENTER CITY CHORALE
David Schelat, conductor
Steven Patchel, organist
A multitude of Psalm settings
First and Central Presbyterian

Sunday 10 March 4:00 PM
LESSONS AND CAROLS for Lent
Immanuel on the Green, New Castle
Music of Stephen Paulus, Alice Parker, Anton Bruckner and others
Sung by The Immanuel Choir

Thursday 14 March 12:30 PM
DAVID SCHELAT, organist
Music from the 18th–21 centuries
First and Central Presbyterian

Sunday 17 March 3:00 PM
Piffaro Renaissance Band
With Sonnambula viol consort
Michael Praetorius' *Terpsichore*
Renaissance dance music
Christ Church Christiana Hundred

Sunday 17 March 4:00 PM
Barbara Govatos, Violin
DAVID CHRISTOPHER, Organ
SSaM Episcopal Church
\$20 Suggested Donation

Friday 22 March 8:00 pm
David Briggs, organist/improviser
The Hunchback of Notre Dame (1923)
Longwood Gardens \$30/35 res. seatg.

Sunday 31 March 3:00 PM
DAVID CHRISTOPHER, Organ
Longwood Gardens

Sunday 31 March 3:00 PM
Renee Anne Louprette, Organ
Christ Church Christiana Hundred
\$20 Requested Donation

APRIL

Sunday 7 April 4:30 PM
Organ Recital by CHAD FOTHERGILL
Christ Church Christiana Hundred
Followed by 5:00 Choral Evensong

Sunday 7 April 7:00 PM
CHORAL COMPLINE for PASSIONTIDE
Schola Cantorum of Covenant Presb.
Music of Hallock, Tallis, Bouzignac
Presbyterian Church of the Covenant

MAY

Thursday 2 May 12:30 PM
John Bullard, banjo
David Schelat, organ
Bach on the banjo! with organ
First and Central Presbyterian

Saturday 11 May 7:30 PM
MASTERSINGERS of Wilmington
A German Requiem, Johannes Brahms
Laura Kosar, soprano
Robert Eisentrout, baritone
Hiroko Yamazaki & Marvin Mills, piano
David Schelat, conductor
Also music of Pärt, Pelecis, Vasks
Tickets: MarketStreetMusicDE.org

Sunday 12 May 4:30 PM
Organ Recital by David Heinze
Organ Scholar, St. Mark's Phila.
Christ Church Christiana Hundred
Followed by 5:00 Evensong

Sunday 12 May 3:00 PM
Piffaro Renaissance Band
Ce Moys de May/This month of May
Instruments and vocal trio
Immanuel Church, Highlands

Thursday 16 May 12:30 PM
Center City Chorale: Choral Miscellany
David Schelat, conductor
Steven Patchel, organist
Everything from J. S. Bach to spirituals

JUNE

Sunday 2 June 4:30 PM
Sonya Subbayya Sutton, Organ
Followed by 5:00 Evensong
Christ Church Christiana Hundred

Sunday 9 June 4:00 PM
Aaron Patterson (Curtis Institute)
with the SSaM Adult Choir
David Christopher, Conductor
Bach: Leipzig Chorale Preludes

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Organist/Accompanist

Provide musical leadership on the organ for Sunday 9:30am worship and serve as accompanist for our choir at its Thursday 7:00pm rehearsal (Sept-May). Applicant will understand that they are bringing glory to God through the gift of music and be able to serve under the direction of our music director. Salary will be based on experience level. Please send resume to Pastor@SALDover.org or to St. Andrew's Lutheran Church 425 N. DuPont Hwy, Dover, DE 19901 or call Sam Reinhardt 302-659-0415.

Part-Time Organist

Limestone Presbyterian Church looking for a part-time organist. Our church places a high regard on music as a key element in our worship service. Approx. 350 members; 11 a.m. service. Rehearsals Thursday evenings from 7:30 - 9 p.m. then Sunday mornings from around 10:15-12:15 p.m. 1995 Allen MDS-60 organ with the MIDI Expander II. 3 manual, and antiphonal swell cabinet with festival trumpet. Contact Limestone Church at limestonepc@comcast.net 302-994-5646.

NEWS from NEIL HARMON

Greetings from Provo, Utah! We miss Delaware very much, especially many of you dear friends. We pray for God to watch over and bless you in your music ministries!

I was delighted to accept Bill's invitation to write a little regarding my adventures over the past six months. Last August we packed up and moved to Provo, Utah where I accepted a position on the organ faculty at Brigham Young University.

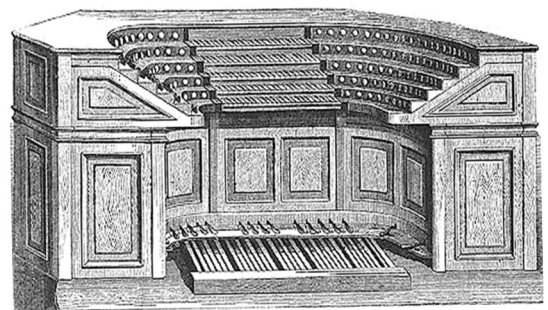
Relocation is never easy, and moving 2,000 miles across the country proved to be quite a challenge for us. We bought a fixer-upper and renovated in our "spare" time during the months of September and October. We were fortunate to be able to live with my sister, who lives about 25 minutes away from Provo, during the renovation. Shortly before Thanksgiving we officially moved into our Provo home. Our home church, just three houses down the street, has a beautifully-voiced, 18-rank Bigelow tracker organ, which is a joy to play. It renders most music well but is especially suited to music of the Baroque period.

BYU has one of the largest organ programs in the United States. Currently we have 15 organ majors, 23 non-majors who take private organ lessons, and over 120 students taking the Group Organ class, designed for beginners with a solid piano background. I teach lessons in my office/studio, which houses a 3-manual, 23-rank Kenneth Jones tracker organ. My colleague, Don Cook, teaches on a large 4-manual Rodgers pipe/digital combination instrument. BYU has seven practice rooms with pipe organs: electro-pneumatic instruments by Austin/Schoenstein, Rodgers, and Casavant; and tracker instruments by Bigelow, Coulter, Wilhelm, and P&S (England). We also have the Group Organ lab equipped with 12 Rodgers digital organs and headphones so 12 students can practice simultaneously in the same room.

One of my greatest joys at BYU is teaching the Organ Literature Class for organ majors. I have eight students in this two-semester survey course, and they keep me on my toes with lots of thoughtful questions. It's been a challenge to stay one step ahead of the students, but I have enjoyed it immensely.

We send our greetings and love from all the Harmon family to our friends and colleagues in Delaware. If you ever find yourself passing through Utah please stop in and say hello!

~ Neil



The **TOP 10 REASONS** you should attend the 2019 AGO Mid-Atlantic Convention in South Jersey

- Performers include a spate of **national and international STARS**, including **Daniel Roth** from St. Sulpice in Paris, France, and **Istvan Ruppert**, organ professor at the Franz Liszt Academy of Music in Budapest.
- Haddonfield was recently chosen the **Best Historic Small Town in the Country**," by *USA Today*, and *Reader's Digest* named it "**The Most Charming Small Town in New Jersey**."
- You'll hear the **World's Largest Pipe Organ** in Atlantic City. With 7 manuals and 33,112 pipes, With **Carol Williams** at the console, its sound will astound and thrill you!
- The **Philadelphia Organ Quartet** will perform a recital on four organs. The organists are **Peter Richard Conte**, Wanamaker Grand Court Organist; **Rudy Lucente**, Assistant Organist of the Wanamaker Organ; **Colin Howland**, Music Director of Tenth Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia; and **Monte Maxwell**, Chapel Organist of the Naval Academy in Annapolis.
- Outstanding **STARS** from the USA will include **Alan Morrison**, organ professor at The Curtis Institute; **Eric Plutz**, Princeton University Organist; **Monica Czausz**, rising superstar; **Carol Williams**, who will premiere a toccata she has written for the Boardwalk Hall Organ; **Nathan Avakian**, renowned Theatre Organist; and **Erik and Anna Meyer**, an outstanding organ - flute duo from St. Martin-in-the-Fields Church in Philadelphia.
- A moving service about slave life and spirituals will be held in the historic Haddonfield Quaker Meeting House, which was actively involved in the Underground Railroad. Leading the service will be **Dr. Eileen Guenther**, and **Metropolitan Opera Mezzo-Soprano Barbara Dever** will sing spirituals, accompanied by **Eric Plutz**.
- Two commissioned pieces will be performed: **Evelyn Larter** has written an anthem, "Glory to the Righteous One," for SATB, optional mezzo-soprano solo, optional brass quintet, and organ; and **Dan Locklair** will be on hand for the premiere of his work, "Angels," Two Short Tone Poems for Organ.
- Superb workshop presenters, including **Dr. Christopher Daly**, "Bach and the Reformation"; **Dr. Eileen Guenther**, "Code Songs and the Underground Railroad"; **Dr. Deborah Simpkin King**, Morningstar Choral Reading Session; **Dr. Ann Labounsky**, "Jean Langlais: A 28-Year Perspective on His Life, Legacy and Music"; **Alan Morrison**, "Practicing with Efficiency and Creativity"; **Dr. Istvan Ruppert**, "Liszt and Hungarian Organ Music"; **Glenn Rodgers**, "The FTC Ruling"; **Marvin Mills**, Organ Repertoire for Worship"; and **Victoria Sirota**, "Clergy and Musicians Working Together in God's Holy House."
- Special services will include choral music performed by the MasterChorale from First United Methodist Church of Haddonfield and the Youth Choir of First Presbyterian Church in Moorestown.
- **It will be a thrilling, inspiring convention!**



SUBSTITUTE LIST

KEY: (S) Sunday, (C) choir, (HB) Handbells, (SS) Special Services, (W) Weddings, (F) Funerals

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